

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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PARIS FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE OFFICER

STATE FOR CU

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, IZ, FR

SUBJECT: FULBRIGHT PROGRAM CANDIDATE CLAUDINE RASSAM

REF: LETTER FROM DOROTHY M. SLAK TO USINT 1/29/75

1. CANDIDATE FORMALLY INTERVIEWED MARCH 7 BY COMMITTEE OF TWO: E/C OFFICER PATRICK KILLOUGH (FSO-4, FULBRIGHT STUDENT U. OF VIENNA 1959-60) AND NACY LOWRIE (FSS-8, WIFE OF USINT PRINCIPAL OFFICER, BA U. OF PITTSBURGH, FORMER TEACHER ALEPPO, SYRIA).

2. COMMITTEE RATES MRS. RASSAM: (A) ACADEMIC RECORD: VERY GOOD (17); (B) PROFESSIONAL TRAINING: OUTSTANDING: (19); (C) ABILITY IN ENGLISH: OUTSTANDING (19); (D) VALUE OF PROJECT: OUTSTANDING (18); (E) PERSONALITY: OUTSTANDING (19). COMPOSITE: OUTSTANDING (92).

3. MRS. RASSAM HAS VERY STRONG LEADERSHIP QUALITIES AND IS NOT AFRAID OF CHALLENGING SITUATIONS. OPERATES WELL IN UNUSUAL ENVIRONMENTS (E.G. FIRST FRENCH TEACHER AT MOSUL UNIVERSITY, IRAQ) APPEARS BOTH DEDICATED RESEARCHER AND GOOD, PRACTICAL TEACHER. UNUSUALLY POISED, SELF-ASSURED. SHE NEEDS ADVANCED DEGREES IN ORDER BE PROMOTED FROM PRESENT POSITION AS LECTURER IN FRENCH LANGUAGE
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AND LITERATURE AT BAGHDAD UNIVERSITY. HENCE HAS STRONG

MOTIVATION PERSEVERE IN U.S. PROGRAM.

4. CANDIDATE'S INTEREST IN EAST-WEST INFLUENCES (LITERARY GENRES AND THEMES) VERY TIMELY NOW THAT ALL INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS TRYING TO UNDERSTAND CULTURAL IMPERATIVES OF MUSLIM OIL-PRODUCING NATIONS. COMMITTEE REALIZES CANDIDATE'S VALUE FROM FULBRIGHT POINT OF VIEW MORE RELATED TO US-IRAQ RATHER US-FRANCE (ALTHOUGH CANDIDATE IS FRENCH NATIONAL AND CONTINUES ACTIVE IN FRENCH GOVERNMENT CULTURAL PROGRAM IN IRAQ). COMMITTEE HOPES THAT CANDIDATE WILL NOT BE REJECTED OUT OF HAND FOR THIS REASON. MORE DISCUSSION BETWEEN COMMITTEE AND PARIS AND/OR DEPARTMENT MAY BE DESIRABLE ON THIS POINT. LOWRIE

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